EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION

Over the past century, advancements in public health have dramatically improved the lives of all Californians. Children born today can expect to live forty years longer than those born in 1900, largely due to public health achievements including clean water, safe foods, immunizations and the creation of tobacco-free spaces.

Despite such significant triumphs, much work remains. Today, rates of obesity and diabetes are rising among children. Fifteen percent of California's kids are asthmatic, and preventable injuries are harming too many youth.

Public Health Week is a time to raise awareness about the role state and local health departments play in promoting public wellness and encouraging sound nutrition and physical activity. This week is also an opportunity to recognize community and professional organizations, schools and health care providers that work together to effectively plan and implement vital public health services.

This year's theme, "Designing Healthy Communities, Raising Healthy Kids," celebrates California's commitment to building fit, wholesome neighborhoods. Healthy communities have safe streets for children to walk and bike to school, bicycle paths and parks for secure play, affordable fresh fruits and vegetables in our marketplaces, and access to regular, preventive health care and early intervention services.

Government, businesses, communities and individuals share responsibility for creating healthy spaces in which children and families can thrive. Together we can take action to shape environments that foster healthy choices.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim April 3-9, 2006, as "Public Health Week" in California.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 10th day of March 2006.

Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA
Attest:

Bruce McPherson
SECRETARY OF STATE